

opportunity of examining the six volumes of Jones's *Icones*, I find not only that the species is identical with the insect figured by Jones, but that there are no figures contained therein agreeing with those published by Donovan. I have not however struck the species out of my Decade, because, having been entirely omitted by Boisduval, this recovery of a lost species is as important as the description of an entirely new one.

N.B. Figures and detailed descriptions of the above Decade are prepared, and will be published hereafter.

VI.—Description of two new species of *Mammalia* discovered in Australia by Captain George Grey, Governor of South Australia. By J. E. GRAY, Esq., F.R.S., &c.

To the Editors of the *Annals of Natural History*.

GENTLEMEN,

CAPT. GEORGE GREY has just sent to the British Museum specimens of two new species of Australian animals belonging to two genera which have not before been accurately described; I therefore have sent you the accompanying short account of them and the extract from Capt. Grey's letter, which states where they were taken, and the kind of country they inhabit; accompanying these skins was a specimen of a new species of *Pedionomus* allied to *P. torquatus*.

Capt. Grey observes in his letter that he has discovered a new species of *Dasyurus*, an animal allied to the *Hydromus* of Geoffroy, but which he thinks is likely to form a new genus, and two new species of *Phascogale*.

In his voyage out he has found a third species of *Prion*, and a new species of *Puffinus*.

He further remarks, that he is collecting the skeletons of the different animals; and, among other interesting facts, he has observed that the sternum of the *Podargus* does not resemble that of the *Caprimulgidae*, but much more closely that of the owls. I shall now proceed to describe the mammalia.

Of the first, Capt. Grey observes,—“The most interesting of these specimens, I think, is a representative of the family *Insectivora*, not I believe before found in Australia. This animal, from its general appearance and habits, would appear to be a true *Sorex*; it inhabits the low scrubby and heathy-looking bushes near King George's Sound, and can only be got at by setting the scrub on fire. I have a second species of this animal, which differs from the one I have forwarded in being larger and somewhat differently marked; it is however possible that this may be only a variety and not a distinct species. I have yet only obtained three of these animals.”

The animal referred to above would not only have proved a new species, but a hitherto undescribed genus, if it had arrived two weeks sooner; for at the last meeting of the Zoological Society, M. Paul Gervais, one of the assistants in the zoological collection of the Garden of Plants at Paris, on my recommendation, described the genus to which it appears to belong, judging from the figures of the skull and teeth which alone he had with him, under the name of *Tarsipes*, being doubtful if it belonged to the family of *Didelphidæ* or *Lemuridæ*. The account of this genus has not yet been published; but as on my showing M. Gervais the specimens, he observed that it evidently belonged to his genus, though it appeared to be a second species of it, I shall in courtesy use the generic name he has given.

TARSIPES, Gervais MSS. Didelphidæ, Sect. Phalangistina.

Head elongate, tapering, slender. Ears large, hairy. Body mouse-like. Tail elongate, cylindrical, tapering to a fine point, covered with close-set, short, bristly hair, covering rings of squarish scales. Legs short. Toes five, free, callous beneath, dilated at the tips, and with very small acute claws; the inner and outer front toes subequal; the three middle ones larger, nearly equal. The thumb of the hind-feet elongate; the index finger short, only reaching to the first joint; the two outer fingers larger and nearly equal. Scrotum very large, pendent, hairy. The cutting teeth, upper very small; the lower very long, lying down horizontally and projecting in front, subulate, transparent. The canines and grinders very small.

This animal has a resemblance to some of the smaller Lemurs in the form of the claws, in the shortness of the index finger, and in the position and form of the lower cutting teeth. It is much more nearly allied to the *Phalangistæ*, and is easily known from them by the length and slenderness of the lower cutting teeth and the rudimentary nature of the other teeth.

TARSIPES Spenseræ.

Blackish gray; back with a longitudinal black streak to the base of the tail and a brown stripe on each side; beneath pale bay, darker on the sides, where it unites to the gray of the sides, and especially over the outside of the limbs. Face blackish gray; forehead dusky brown; cheeks pale brownish. Ears rounded, with scattered short brown hairs; whiskers black.

Inhab. the scrub, King George's Sound.

Length of the body, $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches; of tail, 3; of hind-feet, $\frac{3}{8}$; of head, $1\frac{1}{4}$.

I have named this species after the maiden name of the lady of Capt. Grey, who for many years resided in the north part of New Holland with her father Capt. Spenser, and who

has shown during her voyage to and from Australia a great taste for, and paid great attention to, natural history.

CHÆROPUS, Ogilby. *Didelphidæ*, Sect. *Peramelina*.

Nose elongate, tapering, slender; muzzle bald, callous; whiskers rigid; eyes moderate; ears large, slightly hairy, thin. Cutting teeth $\frac{4-4}{3-3}$, close, nearly uniform; upper conical, lower truncated, hinder one notched externally. Canines $\frac{1-1}{1-1}$, conical; compressed, upper simple, far from the cutting; lower with a notch in the front edge and near to the hinder cutting teeth. False grinders $\frac{3-3}{3-3}$, upper front compressed like the canines; two others three-lobed, broader, the last approaching the grinders in form; the lower compressed, three-lobed. Grinders $\frac{4-4}{4-4}$, each formed of two triangles united by their wider outer edge of the upper broader; and the inner edge of the higher narrower lobes of the lower teeth, the end of the broad side of the triangle are two-lobed. Legs and feet very slender, weak; the front feet elongate, with two equal toes, each armed with a conical claw; the bone on which the claw is supported is bifid at the top; the sole of the feet callous and convex; the hind-feet elongate, with four toes; the sole compressed; heels hairy; the outer toes very small, armed with a nearly sessile conical claw, placed nearly in the middle of the outer side between the heel and the end of the toe; middle toe very large, elongate, armed with a tapering compressed claw, and with a large callous pad beneath; the two inner toes equal, small, compressed, united together nearly to the claws placed before the outer toes a little before the joint of the first joint of the middle toes, which has a rounded pad beneath it; the claws of these toes are compressed, concave beneath and sharp-edged. Tail elongate, hairy, with a small terminal pencil.

This genus is at once known from *Perameles*, to which, in other respects, it is very nearly allied by the conformation of its feet. The genus was established by Mr. Ogilby in the Proceedings of the Zoological Society, 1828, on a drawing brought home by Sir T. L. Mitchell, who had left the animal at the Sidney Museum. A copy of this drawing is published in Mitchell's 'Eastern Australia,' vol. ii. 131. t. 27.

Sir Thomas Mitchell's specimen was without any tail; hence Mr. Ogilby named it *Chæropus ecaudatus*; but I strongly suspect, when the animal is rediscovered, it will be found to have a tail, like the one here described; for the tail appears, as in *Perameles*, to be easily destroyed in skinning, as in the specimen under examination the tail is only attached to the skin by a very narrow piece.

There are no smaller toes behind the two large front ones, which Mr. Ogilby (Ann. Nat. Hist., vii. 231) considers probable to exist; and the hind-feet, as may be seen by the de-

scription, are not "perfectly similar to those of *Perameles*;" and from these discrepancies I should have been induced to consider the animal under consideration a distinct genus from that described by Mr. Ogilby, if it had not very accurately agreed with Sir Thomas Mitchell's copy of his figure.

Mr. Gould, who examined the specimens in the Australian Museum at Sidney, informs me that he believes it is very different from the one here described, and has longer legs.

CHÆROPUS *castanotis*.

Brownish gray, beneath white, sides brownish. Head gray, with intermingled black hairs; whiskers black, rigid. The ears two-thirds the length of the head, broad, thin, rather coriaceous, covered at the base and internally with short, close-set, rufous hairs, naked and blackish at the tip externally. Fur soft, lead-coloured, with longer black-tipped hairs on the back, and rufous-tipped hairs on the sides; outer side of the thighs and legs covered with soft hair; the feet covered with short, close-pressed hair, rufous from the heel to the base of the middle toes, and the rest brownish white. Tail with white adpressed hairs, with a central black stripe along the upper surface, becoming paler and ending in a ridge of elongated brownish white hairs over the tip. Inhab. the scrub near the Murray: the Hon. Capt. G. Grey. Length of body and head, 10 inches; of tail, $3\frac{1}{4}$; ears, $1\frac{3}{4}$; of head, $3\frac{1}{4}$; of hind foot, $2\frac{1}{2}$; from the tip of the nose to the eye, $1\frac{1}{2}$.

Capt. Grey, in a letter dated July 15, 1841, observes, "A man I have out collecting had obtained a specimen of a marsupial animal with cloven feet, which, as far as I can understand the description, is nearly allied to the *Chæropus ecaudatus* of Mr. Ogilby, and yet differs from it in several particulars." And further, "since writing the above, my collector has come in from the Murray, and I have sent home the animal resembling *Chæropus ecaudatus* of Mitchell, but which differs from it in several particulars; amongst others, it has a tail and a very handsome one. It inhabits the scrub near the Murray river."

British Museum, Feb. 4, 1842.

VII.—*Excerpta Botanica, or abridged Extracts translated from the Foreign Journals, illustrative of, or connected with, the Botany of Great Britain.* By W. A. LEIGHTON, Esq., B.A., F.B.S.E., &c.

No. 8. *Revisio Populorum.* Auctore EDUARDO SPACH. (Ann. des Sc. Nat. t. xv. p. 28.) [Extracts so far as relating to the British species.]

Sectio I. LEUCE, Reichb.

Rami ramulique cylindrici; novelli (præsertim surculi radicales) tomentosi, v. velutini, v. pubescentes. Folia ramularia sæpissimè latitudine longitudinem æquantia v. subæquantia, petiolo longo; gra-